

Appl. No. 10/604,495
Amd. Dated April 7, 2004
Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

What is claimed is:

- [c1] (Currently Amended) A downhole tool for reducing debris in a perforation in a wellbore, the perforation extending from the wellbore into a subterranean formation ~~formations~~, the tool comprising:
- a housing positionable in the wellbore; and
- an arm in the housing and extendable therefrom; and
- at least one plug debris blocker in the housing, the at least one plug debris blocker positionable in the perforation via the arm, the at least one plug debris blocker adapted to ~~block prevent~~ debris from ~~formation fluid~~ flowing through the perforation and into the housing with a formation fluid ~~via the perforation~~ whereby the contamination in the formation fluid is reduced.
- [c2] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 1 wherein the downhole tool further comprises a perforator adapted to create the perforation.
- [c3] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 2 wherein the perforator is a punching tool.

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- [c4] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 2 wherein the perforator is a drilling tool.
- [c5] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 2 wherein the perforator has a bit positionable in the perforation and operable between a stationary and an activated mode, wherein in the stationary mode the bit permits the flow of fluid past the outer surface of the bit while ~~blocking~~ preventing the flow of debris, and wherein in the activated mode the bit is movable to dislodging debris in the perforation.
- [c6] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 5 wherein in the activated mode the bit is movable by one of rotation, advancement, retraction and combinations thereof.
- [c7] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 2 wherein the at least one plug debris blocker is at least one filter ~~plug~~.
- [c8] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 7 wherein the perforator is capable of creating a perforation through the filter ~~plug~~.
- [c9] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 1 wherein the at least one plug debris blocker comprises at least one seal plug for sealing the perforation.
- [c10] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 1 wherein the at least one plug debris blocker ~~is comprises~~ at least one filter ~~plug~~.
- [c11] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 10 wherein the at least one filter comprises a plurality of filters ~~filter-plugs are~~ stacked concentrically in the perforation.

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- [c12] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 10 wherein the at least one filter comprises a plurality of filters ~~filter-plugs are~~ stacked linearly in the perforation.
- [c13] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 10 wherein the at least one filter plug has a body, at least a portion of the body comprising mesh.
- [c14] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 13 wherein the at least one filter plug has a lip, the lip having a diameter greater than the diameter of the body.
- [c15] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 13 wherein the body is cylindrical.
- [c16] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 13 wherein the body is frusto-conical.
- [c17] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 1, wherein the wellbore is an openhole wellbore.
- [c18] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 1, wherein the wellbore is a cased wellbore.
- [c19] (Original) The downhole tool of claim 1, further comprising a seal capable of sealing the housing about the perforation to isolate the formation fluid from contaminants in the wellbore.
- [c20] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 1 wherein the at least one ~~plug is~~ debris blocker comprises a bit and wherein the bit is adapted to create the perforation.
- [c21] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 20 wherein the bit is positionable in the perforation and operable between a stationary and an activated mode, wherein in the stationary mode the bit permits the flow of fluid past the outer surface of the bit while

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~~blocking preventing~~ the flow of debris, and wherein in the activated mode the bit is movable to dislodging debris in the perforation.

[c22] (Currently Amended) The downhole tool of claim 1 further comprising a magazine for storing the ~~plugs~~ at least one debris blocker within the housing.

[c23] (Currently Amended) A method for reducing debris in a perforation in a wellbore, the perforation extending from the wellbore into a subterranean ~~formations~~ formation, comprising:

positioning a downhole tool in the wellbore, the downhole tool having a bit extendable therefrom;

positioning the bit in the perforation to block debris as formation fluid flows from the perforation into the ~~housing~~ downhole tool whereby contamination is reduced in the formation fluid collected in the downhole tool.

[c24] (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising creating a perforation in the sidewall of the wellbore.

[c25] (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising detecting debris in the perforation.

[c26] (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising activating the bit to dislodge debris from the perforation.

[c27] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein the step of activating ~~comprise~~ comprises one of rotating the bit, advancing the bit, retracting the bit, and combinations thereof.

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- [c28] (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising plugging the perforation.
- [c29] (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising positioning at least one filter in the perforation.
- [c30] (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising advancing the bit through the filter.
- [c31] (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising stacking filters in the perforation.
- [c32] (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein the filters are stacked concentrically.
- [c33] (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein the filters are stacked linearly.
- [c34] (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the wellbore is a cased wellbore.
- [c35] (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the wellbore is an open wellbore.
- [c36] (Currently Amended) A method for reducing debris in a perforation in a wellbore, the perforation extending from a wellbore into a subterranean ~~formation~~formation, comprising:
positioning a downhole tool in the wellbore, the downhole tool having at least one filter therein;
deploying the at least one filter from the downhole tool and into the perforation whereby debris is prevented from passing from the perforation into the downhole tool.
- [c37] (Original) The method of claim 36 wherein the drilling tool further comprises a perforator and wherein the method further comprises creating a perforation in the sidewall of the wellbore.

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- [c38] (Original) The method of claim 37 further comprising detecting debris in the perforation.
- [c39] (Original) The method of claim 37 further comprising perforating through the filter.
- [c40] (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein the perforator has a bit, the method further comprising activating the bit to dislodge debris from the perforation.
- [c41] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein the step of activating ~~comprise~~ comprises one of rotating the bit, advancing the bit, retracting the bit, and combinations thereof.
- [c42] (Original) The method of claim 36 further comprising plugging the perforation.
- [c43] (Original) The method of claim 36 wherein a plurality of filters are deployed from the downhole tool and into the wellbore, the filters stacked in the perforation.
- [c44] (Original) The method of claim 43 wherein the filters are stacked concentrically.
- [c45] (Original) The method of claim 43 wherein the filters are stacked linearly.
- [c46] (Original) The method of claim 36 wherein the wellbore is a cased wellbore.
- [c47] (Original) The method of claim 36 wherein the wellbore is an open wellbore.
- [c48] (New) The method of claim 23 further comprising sampling formation fluid via the perforation.
- [c49] (New) The method of claim 23 further comprising testing the formation via the perforation.

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[c50] (New) The method of claim 36 further comprising sampling formation fluid via the perforation.

[c51] (New) The method of claim 36 further comprising testing the formation via the perforation.

[c52] (New) A method for reducing debris in a perforation in a wellbore, the perforation extending from the wellbore into a subterranean formations, comprising:
positioning a downhole tool in the wellbore, the downhole tool having an arm extendable therefrom;
positioning at least one debris blocker in the perforation via the arm, the debris blocker adapted to prevent debris from flowing into the downhole tool as formation fluid flows through the perforation into the downhole tool.

[c53] (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the at least one debris blocker comprises a bit adapted to selectively move within the perforation to clear debris.

[c54] (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the at least one debris blocker comprises at least one filter positionable in the perforation.

[c55] (New) The method of claim 52 further comprising testing the formation fluid.

[c56] (New) The method of claim 52 further comprising collecting samples of the formation fluid.